

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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NUMBER 10.

Big Collections in December; The Sum Was \$110,514.43

County Collector C. T. Powell's collections during December, 1915, aggregated \$110,514.13, the largest check, it is said, ever turned over to the County Treasurer.

The different funds were as follows: County revenue fund, \$43,318; railroad, telephone and telegraph companies, \$11,590; school districts, \$22,943; special road and bridge tax, \$26,376; general road tax, \$1,954 and road districts, \$4,330.

Apportionment to the largest districts, (school) follow: Mexico, \$24,305; Vandalla, \$4,456; Farber, \$352; Laddonia, \$1,920; Rush Hill, \$261; Martinsburg, \$865; Benton City, \$463. One item of the school money is included in the \$110,514.13 which was given to the treasurer.

THOMPSON LETTER.

Lightning Cuts Caper With Telephone and Bedclothes—A New Son at The Home of Mr. Tarrance.

Thompson, Mo., Jan. 24.—We are having some beautiful weather after a week of sleet, snow and rain.

Lightning struck the telephone wire near James Beatty's residence Thursday night and burned the wire in two. The electricity ran into the house, burning the fuses out and a spark burned a hole in the sheet on the bed in which they were asleep. It stunned both Jim and his wife for a second. When they came to they came too they sought other sleeping quarters.

Curtis Smith of Benton county, is visiting his sister and aunt, Mesdames J. T. Beatty and W. H. Dempsey, the fore part of the week.

Hog killing has been the vogue for the past week. Those that killed were Wheeler Gant, Wm. Keeton, W. H. Dempsey and J. M. Jones.

Mrs. Walter Cummings, after spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Squires, departed for Columbia where she will make her future home. His father accompanied her as far as Centralia.

Rev. Arvin filled his regular appointment at Hopeville, Sunday.

Alvin Sellars and brother, Columbus Ploot, are getting over a severe spell of gripe.

Brish Daniel near Centralia, visited his daughter, Mrs. Jas. Beatty, Saturday night and Sunday. Their little son, Francis, accompanied him home.

Mrs. Martha Pool was shopping in Mexico, Saturday.

Born, to the wife of John Tarrance, a 10-lb. boy.

Roy Jones visited his uncle and aunt of Fulton recently.

A mass meeting of citizens will be held tonight to consider the matter of observing National Pay Up Week. The meeting will be at the City Hall.

President Wilson will make a tour of the West next week and will make speeches on the subject of "preparedness". He will pass thru Mexico on his way to St. Louis and we'd all be glad to have him stop over a short while and say howdy.

Attorney E. A. Shannon was in Jefferson City on legal business this week.

Mexico Savings Bank
44th Year in Business
Capital Stock, \$150,000
W. W. FRY, President.
J. R. JESSE, Cashier.

\$22,943 will be apportioned among the other Audrain districts. From the current tax, \$22,643; from railroad, telephone and telegraph companies, \$59; from merchant tax, \$36; from delinquent taxes, \$203.

Mexico Special Road District, by C. P. Arnold, received \$2,421; the Vandalla special road district received \$856. The road districts received from railroad and telephone tax, \$9.27; merchants tax, \$7.46; delinquent tax, \$27.54; current tax, \$4,285.12. In addition to the county taxes there was a small sum of city taxes collected by the county and redistributed to the towns. Mexico received \$583.41; Vandalla, \$234.60; Laddonia, \$18.00; Farber, \$27.30; Martinsburg, \$30.74; Benton City, \$12.92; Rush Hill, \$18.44.

THRIFT DAY.

It's One of the New Days Which is Coming in.

Thrift Day, February 3rd, is unique as a holiday, in that its proper observance is a vastly different and far more beneficial one to the individual than the usual celebration of the average holiday. On this day the even tenor of things goes on; business is developed; and financial institutions remain open to do their share in the celebration. There is no cessation of progressive activities familiar to most holidays, and which frequently result in reckless waste of both time and money.

Another feature is that it is the only holiday not confined to any race, religion or class. In its final development it is neither national, sectional, religious or factional, but can be celebrated by all humanity, to the ultimate and lasting benefit of individuals, communities, nations and the world.

The celebration of Thrift Day lies in the faithful performance by each individual of some thrifty action on that day. The very simplicity of the idea will go a long way towards its successful development, and this development will mean a mighty step forward to better conditions for every body.

For this reason, leaders in all fields of activity, particularly financial institutions, are co-operating to make memorable the first annual observance of Thrift Day this year, so that there will be a fitting standard to be followed on the Thrift Days to come.

THE WEATHER.

The "January Thaw" began Thursday. Mercury was 52 degrees above Friday—a warm winter day. Sleet and ice faded away. Clear beautiful day Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Tuesday and yesterday, ditto; some clouds. The bottom has gone out of the roads.

Born, on the 23rd inst., to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kuhne, a daughter. Mrs. Kuhne is at the home of her parents in this city, Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Berrey.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Dearing and R. M. White are down in Florida endeavoring to find a better climate than good Old Missouri is affording right now.

McMillan High School debating team will have their first debate of the season tomorrow night, January 28. They will contest with the Jefferson City team. The question will be, "Resolved That the Philippine Islands should be granted independence." Mexico will have the negative.

BEATS HANNIBAL.

Hardin Gymnasium Crowded—Big Demonstration—The Victory.

By Frank Houston.

A free goal in the last few seconds of the Hannibal-McMillan game Saturday night brought the home boys' score up to where it quadrupled the number of points made by Hannibal. The final score was 60-15. Though one-sided, the game was a snappy and interesting scrap. The Bull-dogs had the Hannibal aggregation bested at all times and kept the ball in McMillan territory during most of the game. Our fast team work kept Hannibal at our mercy.

"Johnny" Kistler and "Doc" Rodas were McMillan's stars. "Bill" Atchison also played a fine game and "Keathy" and "High" Cunningham as usual, put up a good fight. Kistler was a veritable streak of lightning and his goal shooting was wonderful. Rodas was as lithe and as full of fight as a young panther and was always on the job. Atchison's work was the best he had done this year. His playing was fast and furious. Sam Locke was put in to replace Kistler toward the last. Robert Campbell refereed the game.

The Hardin gym was crowded with spectators. Nearly every student in McMillan was there and the enthusiasm and school spirit displayed was greater than ever before. A big crowd of outsiders also attended the game. This was the first experience with basketball of a great many McMillan patrons.

After the game the boys, wild with joy over this great victory, donned their nightshirts, and, forming a long snake-like procession, pulled Hannibal's coffin, elevated on a black hearse, to town and on every corner made the town ring with their McMillan yells. After their voices were gone and they could yell no longer, they honored Manager Shirley Thompson with their presence at his Orpheum Theatre.

The two teams celebrated the victory in an entirely different way. The visitors feasted in the company of McMillan's fairest at Buckner's. The Hannibal boys say this was the most enjoyable part of their visit. The mass meeting that preceded the game in the afternoon was nearly as exciting as the game itself. Our efforts would have made a good showing beside the famous Kansas mass meetings held at the University before each Kansas game according to some who are in position to know.

Amid a volley of revolver shots an effigy of Hannibal fell from the top of the stage and the meeting was on. The sophomore class then performed funeral ceremonies over the mangled body. Six solemn bearers carried it in a most realistic coffin made by members of the manual training class.

Hannibal was laid gently in the box and a slow procession of girls in widow's weeds and boys in deep crepe entered sobbing and placed beautiful floral offerings on the casket. The pep of the different schools defeated by McMillan this season then made their appearance. First came Hannibal pep in a drooping array of black and close beside her plodded sad Jefferson City pep in convict's stripes. Bowling Green pep in a typical Pike County outfit next made his pitiful entrance. Alumni pep wearing long white whiskers and leaning rheumatically on a cane hobbled in with Fayette's pep, dressed as the Fayette yell leader. McMillan pep, one of the sophomores' most attractive girls, all "dolled up" in crimson and gray, waded the stunt.

The rev. Mr. Garrett, with true Shullenberger air, preached the sermon: With weeping and chanting the casket was removed. Then the make believe mourners showed their true characters and drying false tears came to the front of the stage and

sang a cheerful McMillan song.

The Big Stunt of the mass meeting came when the pictures of the team were thrown on the screen and each of these famous boys made talks. The Hannibal men made speeches also. McMillan closed the meeting. The band furnished music for the occasion.

A number of Hardin girls came to the mass meeting and helped lots with their pep. These same girls held a "Beat Hannibal" mass meeting Friday evening at Hrdin. We're certainly grateful to Hardin for all the support she has given us this year.

A GOOD LETTER.

Still Working With a Good Resolve and Purpose.

Benton City, Mo., Jan. 24, 1916.

Dear Editor:—I was glad to see the picture of Hedge Dale in last week's Message.

I am in school this winter, and expect to attend school several winters yet to come. After my school-days are over I intend returning to the farm and to live a free and independent life. When life and its trials are no more on earth I hope to meet in the great beyond all the faces of those who were present at the time referred to.—On that day in Hedge Dale school. Yours Truly, Milton T. Smith.

HOLLENSVILLE NEWS

Hollensville, Mo., Jan. 24.—Mrs. Clyde Moore and daughter, Vera, recently visited in Kansas City.

J. W. Sharp of Brunswick is here looking after his farm. Mr. Sharp has one of the finest farms in this part of Audrain.

Chas. Myers is completing a barn, which is 40ft. x 50ft.

F. L. McGee has just built a chicken house, 11ft. x 28ft.

Our telephone lines, which have been down for more than a week, are being put up again, and telephone service is resumed at Rowena Central.

NORTH MOLINO.

All the sick, we believe, are improving.

The ice last week was a fright. So many were not prepared for it. You could look out and see the neighbor men going across fields with a sack of flour on their shoulders. The roads were too icy for their teams.

W. J. Baker of Monroe City is the guest of his sister, Mrs. Felix Martin. Almer Mundy and family, Ira Mayes and family, Oscar Martin and family were guests Saturday of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Martin.

They are putting new wire on Nos. 6 and 13 telephones. Both lines are on the road past Berea school house.

Rev. Henry Neighbours will preach at Mt. Zion Saturday night before the first Sunday in February.

Miss Eunice Duncan, who has been so ill for some time, is but little improved.

Mrs. J. E. Mundy received a letter from her brother, Baird Price, of Milan, Wash., in which he said they were well and he was fat and saucy and weighs 201 pounds. They like the country.

John Weaver fell Saturday and broke his limb.

Sam T. Torreyson, of near Rush Hill, was in Mexico yesterday. Sam is in the race for Assessor, and his friends are doting on him as a winner.

H. L. Holbrook made the Message a pleasant business call yesterday. He told us of Walter Dunn, south of Benton City, being kicked by a mule. Mr. Dunn suffered three ribs broken.

Schools Have Orchestras Profit and Entertainment in It

Miss Maud Orita Wallace, supervisor of music in the public schools of Mexico, has lately introduced a unique yet pleasing way to teach small children time and rhythm. The children are pleased to call it an orchestra, and such it is, for each child has his turn at the various cymbals, triangles, castinets, nitingales, cuckoos and various instruments with which to keep time with music. When the teacher accompanies them on the piano their joy is complete. Some of the boys have drums, and one third-grade boy has put together some springs and wires in such an inventive way as to have a distinctly individual instrument. With a dozen or more in the orchestra and the remainder of the room singing, the effect is quite pleasing.

NORTH CALLAWAY.

Tells that The Peach Buds Are Killed—A Batch of Very Interesting Live Stock Notes.

Auxvasse, Mo., Jan. 25.—Fine weather, after the sleet storm and cold snap. Zero weather, from 10 to 12 below, nipped the peach buds, and the owner of Sunny Slope Fruit Farm reports all the peach buds killed outright. Mr. Porter says we will have to go farther south to get peaches and cream next summer.

The wheat crop prospect is looking good after the sleet and severe cold snap.

Brown and Kemper who have been farming the 400 acre farm known as the Capt. Eller farm held a sale the 18th inst. and will quit farming for the present. Stock of all kinds sold well, corn selling at 71 1-2 and 72 1-2 cents per bushel.

George Crum and wife were in Mexico Saturday shopping.

Miss Barmier Johnson is visiting in Boone county.

Charles Hoffman sold to W. Ed. Boyd, 2 good short yearling steers at \$72 1-2 for the pair. Mr. Hoffman also sold to James S. Porter, three No. 1 White Face heifer calves at \$97 1-2 for the bunch.

W. Ed. Boyd sold to Charlie Hoffman a good Jersey cow for \$55.

George Crum sold to Ownfelt and Atkinson, Auxvasse shippers, six head of 200 lbs. porkers @ \$6.75.

J. W. Bailey and Son, Concord's all-around merchants and traders, shipped out one load of corn-fed cows to the St. Louis market last week.

John Kennon is feeding 23 head of porkers that will be ready for market in the early spring.

Miss Ada and Marie Porter are sporting a new piano lately purchased from Hurd Music Co. at Fulton.

C. Y. Porter of the Sunny Slope Fruit Farm has added to his herd of high graded Jersey's, 4 head of Holsteins, lately purchased of W. O. Porter of Portland, Mo.

J. S. Porter lately purchased eight head of pure-bred Hereford cattle. Mr. Porter has a good herd.

Ed. Brett has rented Mr. W. J. Wood's farm and will farm the coming season.

W. C. Burt will move to Auxvasse soon and his son's, C. E. Burt and Leslie, will run the farm. We learn they will start a dairy.

J. J. McPheeters and son has sold their corn crop to Dyer Bros. of Auxvasse at 65 cents per bushel.

E. E. Kennon bought of J. J. McPheeters and son all their hay. Mr. Kennon will carry thru the winter a bunch of stock cattle.

Mrs. Na Myers has been very ill.

Such methods as this will eventually result in better marching among the grade children. One of the most difficult things to teach is the military "hep". It comes only after a long period of folk dancing and training, such as the primary grade is now receiving.

This orchestral experiment will develop time and rhythm to the extent that our youngsters will do better stepping in the next parade, or the fire drills which should be inaugurated in our schools. For some time our schools have been adorned with fire escapes, and the fire drill is to be the next innovation.

The above is a suggestion for the rural schools. Why can't any of them organize an "orchestra"? There is profit and entertainment and fun in it.

LADDONIA LETTER.

Two Very Old People Pass Hence—Personal Mention and Other Interesting Notes.

Laddonia, Mo., Jan. 24.—Married, Sunday evening, Jan. 25, at the home of the bride, Mr. Mark Spurlock and Miss Eva Best. Both young people are of Laddonia and will reside here.

Died, Friday morning, Jan. 21st, Mrs. Elinor Jenkins, aged eighty-seven years. Funeral at the residence of her son, J. H. Jenkins, of this place, at 11 o'clock Saturday morning. Rev. Foster of the Christian church conducting the service.

Mrs. Jenkins was born in Indiana. Came to Audrain county in her early youth. She left to mourn her death two sons and two daughters, also several grandchildren. Mrs. Verner Morris of Mexico is a grandchild. She had long been a consistent member of the Christian Church.

Mrs. Ella Fegan is still quite unwell. Is thought to be slightly improved.

Mrs. Miller is on the sick list at the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Pritchett. She is threatened with fever.

Mr. Pritchett who has been ill several weeks is slowly improving.

Mrs. M. A. McVey and Miss Lula McVey left Wednesday of last week for Armstrong, Ill., to spend several weeks with Mrs. Belle Hooton.

Mrs. H. A. Price and two small children returned Sunday of last week from a month's visit with Mrs. Price's parents at Evanston, Ill.

Mr. Ray Gates and Miss Lula Schleeter of Farber were married in Vandalla Monday of last week. They are a most excellent young couple. Ray is a son of Mr. Carol Gates of Laddonia.

Died, Friday night, Jan. 21, Mrs. Lucinda Stevens, aged 98 years. Mrs. Stevens was born in Ohio in 1818, but spent the greater part of her long life in Missouri. Three sons survive her—J. W., north of Laddonia, C. C., of Laddonia, and James Stevens, of Wray, Colo. Also nine grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Alexander, a son, died a number of years ago. Mrs. Stevens was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from her early youth. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Foster Saturday at the residence of Mr. Bernard, where she had made her home for the past seven years.

Hurley Craig of Fulton tried to feed a smoldering fire with gasoline last week and the can exploded in his hand and he was burned so badly that he died Friday.